

Baseball • College Athletics • Boxing • Yachting • Other Sports

TINKER CROSSES
BASEBALL RUBICONWith Brown He Signs Final
Papers and Casts Lot
with Federals.SALARIES GUARANTEED
BY BONDING COMPANYBrooklyn Magnates Not Over-
wrought at the Loss of
Famous Player.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—The final papers by which Joe Tinker and Mordecai Brown, for many years National League baseball stars, cast their lots with the Federal League were signed in the local offices of the league to-day.

Tinker's contract calls for \$36,000 for the three years, according to a statement by Charles Weeghman, president of the Chicago club, whose entrance into professional baseball affairs became first known to-day. Weeghman owns a string of apartments and billiard rooms and is reported to be wealthy. Tinker appeared in the suit, but was reticent about his plans for securing players.

"I'm a Federal Leaguer from now on," he said. "I'm a stockholder in the club."

Tinker intimated he thought there was little likelihood of the forces of organized baseball going into the civil courts to hold him to Brooklyn on the reserve clause of his Cincinnati contract.

"I won't say anything about what players I'll have," he said. "I want to wait and do something first and then talk about it."

This was confirmed by both players, who said also that their salaries had been guaranteed by a bonding company, which assured them full payment for their three years' contract, regardless of what fate might befall the league.

Brown, who is to manage the club, said that their departure from organized baseball into the new league had not been made without full investigation, which convinced them that the Federal had sufficient financial backing to make it a real competitor of the older leagues.

Tinker, who is to manage the Chicago club, indicated that he would have a comparatively free hand in obtaining players for the club, and started in at once to prepare his line-up.

After leaving word at his home that he was going out of the city he hid himself in the offices of Charles Weeghman, owner of the Chicago club, and sent telegraph messages to half a dozen big league players he would like to have in Chicago next year. He would not say who any of these were, but declared that the club would have at least five men who were in the National League as late as last year.

Brown, who is to manage the St. Louis club, said he had made no plans yet, except that he would go to St. Louis tomorrow night to consult the owners of the club there.

Weeghman said every club in the league had deposited a \$25,000 forfeit that it would live up to all its agreements. In case any of the clubs do not go through with their contracts the money is to become the property of the league. He also said he would announce the make-up of the local club within a few days.

Charles Ebbets, Jr., is not overwrought because of the condition of affairs. He declared last night that Brooklyn had acted in good faith, was willing to abide by its agreement with Tinker, and that it was up to the player to make the next move in the case. He said:

"Tinker can rest assured of one thing. The Brooklyn Baseball Club will be in existence long after he has retired from the field, and long after every man now playing the game has passed to the minor leagues and oblivion. We are anxious to play fair with Tinker, but we will not cut in on his whims."

"We have three new players who will receive trials this spring, and who can tell if one of them will not develop into a player of the first grade. O'Mara, Mow, Taylor and Romanach, the Cuban, are all highly rated, and we have the assurance of Jake Daubert that the last named is one of the greatest men in the world. So, after all, we may not be off so badly as some think we are, and the possible desertion of Tinker may work for the best."

There is much speculation on whether or not the National League will be able to enjoin Tinker from playing in any city in which the National League is represented by a team. Ban Johnson, president of the American League, is quoted as saying: "The reserve clause in the players' contract is strong enough to prevent Joseph Tinker and Mordecai Brown playing with the Federal League."

Johnson would not say whether organized baseball was preparing to take any steps to fight the progress of the outlaws.

The list of the eight Federal League clubs and their managers suggested is as follows:

For Chicago, Joe Tinker, of the Cincinnati Reds; St. Louis, Mordecai Brown, of the Cincinnati Reds; St. Paul, Jimmie Sheppard, of the St. Louis Cardinals; Baltimore, Otto Knebe, of the Philadelphia National League; Kansas City, George Stovall, of the St. Louis Browns; Indianapolis, William Phillips; Buffalo, Larry Schaffly, of the Buffalo team, and Toronto, not stated.

It was reported that Barney Hensbary, a member of the Canadian Parliament, would finance the affairs of the Toronto club, but this was later denied. The tentative list of the backers for the various clubs is as follows:

St. Louis, Otto Steinfeld; Pittsburgh, W. A. Kerr, John Harbour; Baltimore, Edward Hanlon; Kansas City, S. S. Gordon, C. C. Madison; Indianapolis, J. E. Krause, J. A. George, E. E. Gates; Buffalo, Walter Mullen; Chicago, Charles Weeghman, W. M. Walker and James A. Gilmore. All the backers named are said to have large resources behind them.

In the open season for rumors and wild reports President Steininger of the St. Louis Federal League club said yesterday that Mordecai Brown had signed four new players for his team.

He reported to have been drafted from Chicago, New York, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati; but it was not said whether the New York and Chicago men were from the National or American League.

It was rumored in Boston yesterday that the agents of the Federals were trying to lease the former home of the Boston Red Sox on Huntington Avenue.

Rain Halts Golf Tourney.

Pinehurst, N. C., Dec. 29.—Play in the holiday golf tournament was postponed to-day on account of rain.

No Outlaw Team
for New York

Baltimore, Dec. 29.—Edward Hanlon, of this city, former manager of the Baltimore, Brooklyn and Cincinnati clubs, pronounced untrue to-day the report that New York would be taken into the Federal League.

There will be no further circuit changes this year, said Mr. Hanlon, who is now actively identified with the new organization, and the league, made up of clubs at Chicago, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Toronto and Baltimore, will remain intact.

PARTING
SHOTS

Although Joe Tinker ought to know the color of money when he sees it, Garry Herrmann still insists that the Federal League has no financial backing. For a long time, too, they laughed at Columbus when he intimated that the earth was round.

More in sorrow than in anger Ban Johnson watches the departure of Brown and Tinker from the fold. He says he has always regarded them highly. However, as noted, the esteem of the American League Club and \$26,000 no hesitancy in choosing was noted.

If the reserve clause really holds Tinker under contract to the Brooklyn Superbas, why does not Ebbets sue for damages? It looks like the grip of organized baseball on its stars is more or less a figment of the imagination.

The jumping of prominent players like Tinker and Brown cannot help but have a great influence on all the dissatisfied lesser lights in the game. The indications are that the hold-outs this year will prosper greatly, and the owners will have to dig deeper than ever before to pay the salaries demanded. With the Federal League waiting with stretched arms to welcome the wanderers, a player can put up quite a convincing argument for a raise.

Jim Gaffney still insists that Tinker is bluffing—with a royal straight flush, perhaps. The word bluff is doomed among National League owners. Garry Herrmann insisted on calling Charles Ebbets' bluff in offering \$25,000 for Tinker and started all the trouble.

The outlaws are angling for Pat Rason and have hooked Joe Tinker. Brooklyn's pennant prospects which beamed so brightly only a few weeks ago are already growing dim, although the schedule for next season has not been drawn up.

"Dumpty" Taylor, the mite pitcher, formerly with the Giants, wants to be an umpire. A verbal clash between him and Johnny Evers in mid-season form would be worth going miles to see.

Zbyszko says he is trying to cancel his European engagements, so as to be able to compete in the tournament in the garden next month. It is hard to believe that any one could want to stand in the way of a wrestler leaving a country.

"Battling" Levinsky has arranged five bouts to be fought in the space of twelve days. Willie Ritchie fights about once in twelve months. That the difference between a champion and an aspirant to the title. As soon as Levinsky is crowned, however, he will see the error of his ways.

The Boxing Commission says that only death and defeat can rob a man of a title. Fifty years from now it will be some loss for the Ritchie progeny to stand up in school and allow as how Grandpa Willie is light-weight champion of the world.

Courtney, of Cornell, says the old Cook stroke formerly used by the Yale rowers is good enough to be adopted next year, and speaks highly of the Blue's new coaches. Every little while Connie Mack drops sweet words of praise in the path of the Giants. Such gentle consideration from the dwellers on the heights should be appreciated.

It is strange why a boxer picks out as the hardest fight of his career one in which he was eventually victorious. Ad Wolgast gives "One Round" Hogan the palm, and Fitzsimmons awards the medal to Gus Kuhr. In the latter case, which these two lost their titles were mere trifles, as it were.

W. H. W.

FEDERALS READY TO BUILD
Chicago Club Asks for Bids for
\$125,000 Grandstand.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—The Chicago Federal League Club advertised to-day for bids for the construction of a cement and steel grandstand to cost \$125,000.

Grounds have been purchased at Sheffield and Addison streets, on the North Side. Bids for the stand will be opened immediately and the contract will be awarded in forty-eight hours, it was announced.

Joseph Tinker, former manager of the Cincinnati Reds, who signed a three-year contract on Saturday to manage the Chicago Federals, is away from Chicago. It was made known to-day, on a mission to obtain players for his team.

Tinker, it is authoritatively stated, has nine regular players engaged, of whom five are big leaguers. He is after others.

Charles Weeghman, president of the Chicago Federals, stated to-day that Tinker would make no attempt to sign any player under contract to play in any other league. Tinker is not trying to get Heinie Zimmerman, of the Cubs, Weeghman declared.

The new Federal League grounds here are 60 by 32 feet. The situation is in the most popular centre of the North Side, which has been without a baseball park.

The grounds of the National League are on the West Side and the American ball park is on the South Side, both of them miles distant from the new field.

KNABE ISSUES A DENIAL

Philadelphia Player Has Not
Joined Federal League.

Philadelphia, Dec. 29.—Otto Knabe, second baseman of the Philadelphia Athletics baseball team, denied to-night that he had signed a contract to manage the Baltimore team of the Federal League.

He declined to say whether he had received an offer from the Federal League or whether he would consider such an offer.

"I cannot put it too strongly that I have not accepted the management of the Baltimore team of the Federal League," said Knabe. "I do not know anything about it."

Lobert Tells of the
Storm Tossed GiantsMonster Waves Make Play-
ers Wish and Pray for
a Sight of Land.PLENTY OF FUN ON
THANKSGIVING DAY"Germany" Schaefer Organizes
an "Ox-tette" and Makes a
"Hit" with All Hands.

By JOHN B. LOBERT.

(Third baseman of the Phillies, travelling with the baseball world's tourists as a member of the Giants.)

Yokohama, Japan, Dec. 6.

When I wrote my last letter to America we were just out of sight of land, in the throes of seasickness.

But we recovered and finally decided that a voyage across the Pacific was not the most unpleasant thing in the world. In fact, it became rather delightful.

And now, having reached Yokohama safely and finding a boat ready to start the return trip, I am going to send the log of our trip or the Empress of Japan as I wrote it down from time to time.

My first entry was on November 25, six days after we left Seattle. I sent a letter, as I have said, explaining why I did very little writing before that time. Come along now, you fans, and join me in a voyage across the Pacific.

The start of our voyage was made in bitter cold weather and a storm was in sight. We were assigned our staterooms and it was not long before all were slumbering peacefully—right then. The next morning when I awoke I remained rigid, in my bunk, as did several others. So far as I could learn, only three answered the breakfast call. Mrs. Lobert was one of them, too. I might as well admit right now that she was a better sailor than her husband.

It wasn't long before I became very seasick, and I could hear them all around me. Some persons try to be funny at all times, and I was in a mood to do damage to one voice, which continually piped that mother-ode refrain: "Mr. Captain, stop the ship; I want to get off and walk."

Have you ever been seasick on the Pacific? If you have, you will realize what a bit that chant meant to me.

The sea was very rough, and "Miss" Empress of Japan would have been a credit to any major league baseball club the way she was "pitching" and "hitting" those angry waves.

Scurrying a baseball tourist left his stateroom that day or night.

The following morning it was still rough, but I managed to get out of my bunk, dress and go up on the deck for some air. One by one they came staggering up the steps, and we were certainly "trail blazers" for the greater part of that day.

Sunday morning found all the athletes taking their morning walks on the promenade deck and beginning to feel as if life were worth living.

Sunday afternoon, while a dozen or more of our party, mostly women, were seated in stateroom chairs on the deck, a huge wave swept over the promenade deck, carrying the chairs from under us and drenching all to the skin. The women were greatly frightened, but no one was hurt. All made a hasty exit to the staterooms to don dry clothing.

I was sitting forward and the wave hit me first. I hung on to my chair and did a regular amateur Kellermann stunt. They say it was funny. I can laugh now. I couldn't see the joke then.

The promenade deck was filled to-day (Tuesday, November 26), for the sea was as calm as a mill pond. Shuffleboard, skipping the rope, running and walking were indulged in by the athletes, and by noon everybody had a marvellous appetite. The waiters, or servants, who are all Chinese, were kept on the go to and from the kitchen.

After lunch, the captain informed us that we were in sight of the Aleutian Islands, and, of course, all wanted to get a glimpse of land once again. All sorts of glasses and binoculars were brought into play. After a bit the islands were visible with the naked eye. The high mountain peaks were covered with snow, which glistened in the bright sun, while from one of the peaks the eruption of a volcano, dense clouds of black smoke being emitted all the time.

Thanksgiving Day was spent very pleasantly on board our ship. As everybody had got over the seasickness and groggy feeling, we enjoyed it.

The dining saloon was decorated with flags and bunting of different nations, while over the table of the captain, W. Dixon Hopcraft, commander of the Empress of Japan, were draped the good old American flag and the flag of Great Britain, this being an English vessel.

The honored guests of the captain, seated at his table, were Mr. and Mrs. John J. McGraw and Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Comiskey. Mr. McGraw being the manager of the Giants and Mr. Comiskey, owner of the White Sox, as the big majority will know.

"Peaceful Pacific" was on the rampage during the dinner, but all stuck gamely to their seats. While drinking coffee several were taken unaware by a rough wave and the beverage met them square in the face. Steve Evans, the comedian of the St. Louis Cardinals, got a laugh by requesting a Chinese waiter to bring him a sponge. Tip O'Neil, well known as a baseball scout, and Jiff Scott, known in American League circles as "Death Valley Jim," are raising beads, and the coffee glistened in their beards ludicrously.

An entertainment followed the dinner, and everybody aboard had to do some sort of "stunt." It was immense and there was a laugh a minute. Joseph Farrell acted as chairman and toastmaster, making a big hit with his funny sayings.

Captain Hopcraft, who is quite English and a jolly fellow, entertained us highly with his English songs and stories.

"Germany" Schaefer enlarged his original German quartet to eight and now he calls it his "Ox-tette." The members are Schaefer, Benz, Witte, Scott, Sparrow, Merkle, Weaver and Lobert. Our song, "Oh, du Schoener," made a bit, judging from the uproarious laughter. The fun lasted until midnight and we had a grand time, though we were in mid-ocean.

No one was allowed on the decks the following day for fear he would be washed overboard. The storm raged for three days and nights and the speed of the ship had to be reduced to four miles an hour. Few of the women in our party

ventured from their staterooms during the storm. I looked out of my cabin window and, believe me, those angry waves were 100 feet high, if not higher.

Not only were the women frightened, but several of the boys were scared even worse. Mike Doolan tells a funny story on his roommate, Ivy Wingo, or "Sunny Jim," as Mike has dubbed him. Wingo is the St. Louis Cardinals' catcher. Mike says that "Sunny Jim" slept with one eye and one ear open, like a fox. Every time a huge wave would strike the side of the ship Ivy would duck his head under the pillows. Doolan swears he heard him murmur many times: "Oh, how I wish I was back in dear old Georgia."

"Germany" Schaefer hadn't been seen for several days, and it is said that he had stowed himself away under the heavy canvas in one of the lifeboats, ready for the "big splash."

On Sunday night a heavy snow fell and the decks were covered to the depth of several inches. The players tried out their arms, a regular snow fight being indulged in. It reminded me of the good old winter days when I was a boy at school. Several of the women had their faces washed, giving them red cheeks, but that wasn't necessary, as the cheeks of all of them are glow. I want to say right now that a finer looking coterie of rosy-cheeked, jolly and good-natured women was never aboard any ship before.

Owing to the severe storm we passed through, we will in all probability be four or five days late in reaching Yokohama, but as we all feel right now, "Better late than never." Steve Evans says, however, that he is having so much fun aboard the ship that he wouldn't care if he did not reach Yokohama for two years.

So far as I am personally concerned, I trust that when the folks back home are reading this I will be in a hotel in Yokohama, or some other port, where you can sleep and eat in comfort and take your morning walks on firm and solid earth.

Yale and Cornell alone of the more important institutions of learning in the East are now outside the fold, and if Professor Frederick W. Nicholson, of Wesleyan University, secretary of the association, reads the signs aright both will be members before another twelvemonth rolls by.

Cornell will be represented at to-day's meeting by Professor C. V. P. Young, director of physical education, who will take part in the discussion at the evening session on "Summer Baseball." W. H. Corbin, better known to the athletic world and to Yale men in particular as "Pa" Corbin, has been invited to attend the convention, and it is the executive committee's cherished hope that the news he carries back to New Haven will convince Yale's athletic authorities that the Blue cannot longer afford to stand aloof.

With the admission of Princeton the membership list of the association has jumped up to 120. The other new members are the Rice Institute, and several of the smaller collegiate athletic conference associations of the Middle West.

Professor Nicholson has compiled statistics showing that the association has grown from an organization in 1905 of thirty-nine institutions, with a student body of 25,000, to an organization of 120 colleges, with a total student body of 145,000. Fully 40 per cent of all the colleges and universities in the country with a student body of 1,000 or more are members of the association, the more important non-members being Cornell and Yale in the East and the University of Illinois in the Middle West.

The growth of the association has attracted such attention that yesterday Professor Nicholson received a letter of congratulation from P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education. With the recognition of the movement by the government its success seems assured.

Another message which Professor Nicholson received yesterday was a cable message of good wishes from Maion, Palmer Pierce, former president of the association.

The opening session of the convention is called for 10 o'clock this morning. Dean Le Baron R. Briggs, president, will deliver the annual address, and then there will be papers by the Rev. Endicott Peabody, head master of the Groton School, on "The Ideals of Sport in England and in America"; Dr. George W. Ehler, of the University of Wisconsin, on "The Regulation of Intercollegiate Athletics"; and by Dr. James Naismith, of the University of Kansas, on "Basketball."

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CORNELL AND YALE
STILL OUT OF FOLDNational Collegiate Ath-
letic Association Heads
Gather.THE ADMISSION OF
PRINCETON RATIFIEDProfessor Young and "Pa" Corbin
To Be Present at Meeting—
Growth of Organization.

College athletic directors and faculty advisers from every corner of the nation will convene at the Hotel Astor this morning for the eighth annual conference of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Princeton formally became a member of the body last night, when its admission was ratified by the executive committee which met at the Astor to formulate the plans that will be followed at to-day's sessions.

Princeton, with Cornell and Yale, failed to join the association when it was organized in 1905, and although efforts were made annually to get the Princeton faculty committee on outdoor sports to join the movement it was not until last fall that the end was accomplished.

Yale and Cornell alone of the more important institutions of learning in the East are now outside the fold, and if Professor Frederick W. Nicholson, of Wesleyan University, secretary of the association, reads the signs aright both will be members before another twelvemonth rolls by.

Cornell will be represented at to-day's meeting by Professor C. V. P. Young, director of physical education, who will take part in the discussion at the evening session on "Summer Baseball." W. H. Corbin, better known to the athletic world and to Yale men in particular as "Pa" Corbin, has been invited to attend the convention, and it is the executive committee's cherished hope that the news he carries back to New Haven will convince Yale's athletic authorities that the Blue cannot longer afford to stand aloof.

With the admission of Princeton the membership list of the association has jumped up to 120. The other new members are the Rice Institute, and several of the smaller collegiate athletic conference associations of the Middle West.

Professor Nicholson has compiled statistics showing that the association has grown from an organization in 1905 of thirty-nine institutions, with a student body of 25,000, to an organization of 120 colleges, with a total student body of 145,000. Fully 40 per cent of all the colleges and universities in the country with a student body of 1,000 or more are members of the association, the more important non-members being Cornell and Yale in the East and the University of Illinois in the Middle West.

The growth of the association has attracted such attention that yesterday Professor Nicholson received a letter of congratulation from P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education. With the recognition of the movement by the government its success seems assured.

Another message which Professor Nicholson received yesterday was a cable message of good wishes from Maion, Palmer Pierce, former president of the association.

The opening session of the convention is called for 10 o'clock this morning. Dean Le Baron R. Briggs, president, will deliver the annual address, and then there will be papers by the Rev. Endicott Peabody, head master of the Groton School, on "The Ideals of Sport in England and in America"; Dr. George W. Ehler, of the University of Wisconsin, on "The Regulation of Intercollegiate Athletics"; and by Dr. James Naismith